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Ephrin Receptors and Cancer

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Message from the Guest Editor

The family of RTKs, EPHs, comprises 14 cell-bound members divided into two classes, A and B, based on their sequence similarity and binding affinity to their ligands, ephrins. In a similar manner, ephrins are also cell-bound proteins and include ephrin-A and ephrin-B classes. Nine class A EPHs and five class B bind five ephrin-A and three ephrin-B classes. The EPH system is involved into key regulatory processes of human physiology: it highlights axon guidance and synaptic plasticity in the nervous system, as well as angiogenesis, vascular remodeling, and homeostasis of various tissues. In addition, this cell-cell communication system is implicated in several pathologic processes, including neurodegenerative disorders, viral infections, and cancer. EPHs' upregulation in the pathogenesis of malignant transformation has been reported, suggesting their use as potential biomarkers and drug targets for various cancer types.









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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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